

I am the public that owns the airwaves. You are the governmental arm whose duty it is to protect my interests in the airwaves. Media consolidation is not in my interests to be an informed and active member of this democracy. By its nature of being consolidated and homogeneous, it does not reflect the diversity of humanity. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest, as you are to protect it. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Do your duty and respond forcefully to Sinclair's abuse of the privilege of using my airwaves.

Thank you.